# **Guide to Method Flexibility and Approval of EPA Water Methods**

## Prepared by

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U. S. Environmental Protection Agency
Washington, DC

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## In Memory Of

This guide is dedicated to Dr. Baldev Bathija, in memory of his commitment to the improvement of EPA methods, his boundless enthusiasm, and his unwavering support for the streamlining initiative described in this document.

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#### Foreword

This draft guidance document describes the principles and procedures for a comprehensive initiative to expand method flexibility and expedite approval of analytical methods for wastewater and drinking water at 40 CFR parts 136 and 141. This initiative represents a combined effort of EPA's Office of Science and Technology and Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water to streamline EPA's water methods approval programs.

This guide was prepared by the Engineering and Analysis Division of the Office of Science and Technology within EPA's Office of Water. The guide is for use by EPA Headquarters and Regional personnel, permittees, state and local regulatory authorities, purveyors of new technology, and analytical laboratories in implementing the Office of Water's streamlining initiative.

This guide does not duplicate other Agency guidance and should be supplemented with other guidance for specific topics. Citations for supplemental guidance are included in the guide where applicable.

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Additional copies of this guide may be obtained from the following organizations:

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